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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 19, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 14 totaled an estimated 19.1 billion ton-miles, 10.3 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 46 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 819.4 billion ton-miles carried, up 5.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended November 14 totaled 425,708, up 9.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, but 2.8 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 7.9 percent in the East and 11.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 15 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Coal loadings increased by 9,382 cars (8.4 percent), while metallic ores showed a gain of 6,537 cars (50.8 percent). Loadings of metals and products were up 2,875 cars (41.1 percent), and crushed stone, gravel and sand increased by 2,738 cars (20.8 percent). Twelve of the 20 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 7 totaled 109,182 trailers and/or containers, 0.6 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 45 weeks of the year was 4,459,931 trailers and/or containers, up 2.9 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/14/87:

	Loadings in Week ended November 14, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,337	I	548	1.8	D	1,263	4.0
Other farm products	3,896	D	602	13.4	D	162	4.0
Metallic ores	19,412	I	6,537	50.8	I	1,105	6.0
Coal	120,635	I	9,382	8.4	D	5,325	4.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,888	I	2,738	20.8	D	1,342	7.8
Nonmetallic minerals	10,051	I	1,983	24.6	I	613	6.5
Grain mill products	11,340	D	51	0.4	I	152	1.4
Food and kindred products	11,685	I	306	2.7	D	505	4.1
Primary forest products	9,963	D	477	4.6	I	13	0.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,828	I	311	4.1	I	292	3.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,546	D	926	7.4	D	192	1.6
Chemicals and allied products	25,927	I	2,481	10.6	D	69	0.3
Petroleum products	5,120	I	870	20.5	I	310	6.4
Stone, clay and glass products	11,100	I	1,557	16.3	D	327	2.9
Coke	5,245	I	1,233	30.7	D	661	11.2
Metals and products	9,862	I	2,875	41.1	D	737	7.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,715	I	246	1.1	I	103	0.5
Waste and scrap materials	9,979	I	1,614	19.3	I	130	1.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,793	D	375	11.8	D	197	6.6
All other carloads	81,386	I	6,426	8.6	D	4,189	4.9
Total Cars Loaded	425,708	I	36,676	9.4	D	12,251	2.8
Corresponding week of 1986	389,032						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (46 weeks)	18,451,712	17,630,090	I 4.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
45 Weeks ended November 7	800.3	760.7	I 5.2
Week ended November 14	19.1	17.3	I 10.3
46 Weeks cumulative	819.4	778.1	I 5.3

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